

## CLAIMS

1. A method of purifying L-glutamic acid by transformation recrystallization which method comprises maintaining crude crystals of L-glutamic acid containing  $\alpha$  crystals of L-glutamic acid in an aqueous solvent at a temperature of from 50°C to the boiling point of said aqueous solvent in the coexistence of active carbon until about 30% or more of the crystals of L-glutamic acid have been transformed into  $\beta$  crystals thereof, the amount of said aqueous solvent being an amount not more than the amount sufficient (i.e., an amount insufficient) to form a saturated solution of said crystals of L-glutamic acid.